



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

*"The oldest continuously operating Amateur Radio Club in the United States"*

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## *November/December 2012 Newsletter*

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### **Next Meeting:**

January 11: Power Surge Supression

February 8: Legacy meeting featuring 10 meters

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### **Highlights from the December Meeting:**

Club President Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB, called the meeting to order at 7:20. There were approximately 50 in attendance, including one new ham, and one upgrade to extra. The annual Christmas meeting location is going to be at the Castleton MCL, instead of the Township Line MCL. This is because the Township Line one wants \$200 if there are not 70 going through the line. This will be on December 14, starting at 6:00 pm (see flyer put together by Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, on the last page of this newsletter). Dallas Evans from the Children's Museum (paleontologist) will be the speaker. The survey is going to be posted at some point this coming week. January meeting will be on Surge Supression, February will be the legacy meeting on 10 meters.

On tonight's agenda was the election of officers. There were no nominations from the floor. Slate: Pres. Open, VP: Dave Miller, K9RTT; Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B; Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H; Board members: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB, Jim Rinehart, K9RU, Bob Osterhous W9PSE; Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV. This slate was voted in by acclamation.

Jerry read about the "Ham Radio Promotion Project" that the club has been a member of for the past couple of years. In the past, the newsletter of this group, *Ham Radio Promoter*, has been mailed, now it will only be via at their website, <http://neoham.org/>.

Jerry also announced that WW2IND, the station at the Indiana War Memorial's USS Indianapolis radio room is operational Wednesday through Sunday, by appointment.

Jay Wright, KK9L, announced volunteer recognition night in Hendricks County will be December 5 at the Hendricks County Government Center in Danville. Also, the 145.130 and 444.575 repeaters in Hendricks County are now on IRLP, and automatically connect to the "Say Good Morning with Radio" net, held 6 days a week starting at 10:00 am, local time. Bob Blake, N9FIM, asked to have a financial report made to the club at the January meeting.

Jerry introduced the speaker for the evening, Dave Spoelstra, N9KT, with his talk on freeware, computer security, etc. He said that Linux is the most popular OS, since it is on iPhones, iPads, Androids, etc. He asked who uses what browsers, told about an internet security conference COMSEC. Told about the browser hacking contest. Google Chrome was the most secure by far. So, Dave said he uses Chrome on Linux, and feels pretty secure. Talked about Antivirus software. AVG is a good free AntiVirus product, available at <http://free.avg.com/us-en/homepage>. Avast is another good free AV program. MS Security Essentials is another good free AV program. Firewalls are built into routers, so most of us are protected from malicious intrusions by that. Office Suites: Open Office, available at <http://www.openoffice.org/> is a pretty good one, Libre Office is also a good one. Freeware AV Player: VLC Media Player. Google Docs is a great free site that one can share documents with. Dave passed out a handout with several good tips for freeware. Among the links on the handout were two places to look for good general interest freeware: <http://www.techsupportalert.com/>, <http://ninite.com/>, and a good place for ham freeware: <http://g3vfp.org/download.html>. Dave talked about passwords, saying not to use words. Lastpass, available at <http://lastpass.com/> is a freeware password generator.

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **POSTAGE RATES GOING UP IN JANUARY**

The United States Postal Service (USPS) announced price increases that will take place effective on Sunday, January 29, 2013. The USPS also announced the introduction of "a First-Class Mail Global Forever Stamp", which "will allow customers to mail letters anywhere in the world for one set price of \$1.10". The main changes that effect Amateur Radio operators are as follows:

Letters (1 oz.) — 1 cent increase to 46 cents

Letters to all international destinations (1 oz.) — \$1.10 (currently \$1.05)

Postcards — 1 cent increase to 33 cents

Point your browser to [http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2012/pr12\\_114.htm](http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2012/pr12_114.htm) for all of the details.

## **FCC SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED CHANGES**

Earlier the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) -- WT Docket No. 12-283 -- proposing to amend the Part 97 rules governing the Amateur Radio Service. On October 24, a summary of the NPRM was published in the Federal Register and the FCC is seeking comments on it.

Specifically, the Commission is proposing to modify the Amateur Radio Service rules to grant examination credit for expired and beyond-the-grace-period-for-renewal Amateur Radio operator licenses; to shorten the grace period during which an expired amateur license may be renewed; to revise the time a call sign is not available to the vanity call sign system correspondingly, and to reduce the number of volunteer examiners needed to administer an amateur license examination. The NPRM also asks for comment on amending the rules to permit remote test administration, and proposes to amend the Amateur Radio Service rules to allow amateur stations to transmit certain additional emission types.

Comments must be filed on or before December 24, 2012 (60 days after publication in the Federal Register); reply comments must be filed on or before January 22, 2013 (90 days after publication in the Federal Register). Instructions on how to file comments are listed beginning on page 12 of the NPRM.

The NPRM can be found on the web in PDF format at,  
[http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2012/db1002/FCC-12-121A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db1002/FCC-12-121A1.pdf).

## **CLASSES COMING UP IN HENDRICKS COUNTY**

Classes in Hendricks County will be on Tuesday evenings this year, beginning on January 29, 2013. Instruction for all classes of license will be offered. Classes will run approximately 2 hours, beginning at 7:00 pm. The classes will run 8 or 9 weeks. Classes will be held at the Hendricks County Senior Center, just north of Hendricks Regional Health in Danville. Contact Jay Wright, KK9L, for more information.

## ONE DAY TECHNICIAN CLASS COMING IN JOHNSON COUNTY

### This note from Jack Parker, W8ISH:

This may be a bit early but I wanted to bring everyone up to speed on our plans to sponsor a one-day Technician License Class on Saturday February 9, 2013. If you know of someone who is interested in taking the class refer them to [secretary@midstatehams.org](mailto:secretary@midstatehams.org) .

Seating will be limited to 25 students so they should register early to insure a spot. We require all students to purchase the Technician Class License Manual, Second Edition. <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Ham-Radio-License-Manual-Revised-2nd-Edition/?page=1>

The class will be nine hours of instruction with testing to follow. The class begins promptly at 8AM in our meeting room at the Johnson County EOC.

Thanks for your help in passing the word.

Jack W8ISH

Class coordinator

## SECOND ANNUAL BROWNSBURG HAMFEST COMING

SECOND ANNUAL BROWNSBURG In. HAMFEST  
COMING IN FEBRUARY 2013  
HAM RADIO, COMPUTER, ELECTRONICS FLEA MARKET  
Saturday, February 16, 2013, running 6:00 am until 2:30 pm  
Set up available on Friday, the 15th from 2:30 pm until 8:30 pm

AMERICAN LEGION POST 331  
636 E MAIN ST, BROWNSBURG, IN. 46112  
\$ 5.00 ADMISSION PLENTY OF FREE PARKING  
VENDORS: \$10 PER TABLE, \$15 WITH POWER Bring your own power strips and cables Table sales at the door if available both days  
FOOD SALES BY THE LADIES AUXILARY  
Sponsored by  
Hendricks County Amateur Radio Society  
<http://www.hcars.org/>  
Talk-in on 147.015 +  
NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS

## **RECENT LoTW PROBLEMS ADDRESSED**

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, reports the fix for the Logbook of The World (LoTW) bug was implemented at 2103 UTC on November 28. Full credit goes to ARRL Information Technology Manager Michael Keane, K1MK, for figuring out what was happening and how to correct it.

There are two ways of uploading logs: via the LoTW website and by e-mail. LoTW users should note that e-mailed logs were not affected by the bug, so no e-mailed logs will need to be resubmitted.

At the time the fix was implemented, LoTW processing was running almost exactly three days behind. If a user's most recent upload was made before 2100 UTC on November 25 and it has not yet been processed the file should be resubmitted. There should be no need to resubmit logs uploaded since 2100 UTC on November 25, which would include all CQWW CW DX Contest logs submitted after the end of the contest.

There is, however, a very slight chance that logs uploaded after this date might have been overwritten. If you find that your logs that were uploaded after November 25 are not appearing in your LoTW account, please wait until after December 3 to upload them again.

Thanks to everyone who has been patient while we grappled with this bug. The issue of slow processing speed is also being addressed, but it requires a hardware upgrade that will take several weeks to implement. Your continued patience and understanding will be appreciated.

## **A NOTE REGARDING ARRL OUTGOING QSL BUREAU**

### **This note from Brian Smith, W9IND:**

Greetings, all --

During a phone conversation with the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service today, I found out something that everyone who sends QSL cards through the bureau should know:

Outgoing cards from the ARRL go out only ONCE EVERY THREE MONTHS, and the next batch won't be sent out until the end of December.

I was told that at one time, the League shipped out cards every couple of weeks, but no more.

This should be useful information for anyone who has DX cards that you're preparing to send to the bureau. Might as well take your time, because you've got a whole month to get them ready.

73,  
Brian, W9IND

## **BEWARE OF POSSIBLE PROBLEMS WITH “CHIRP”**

Bob Osterhous, W9PSE, reports some problems with the installation of the popular free program “Chirp”, for programming several popular amateur radios. If you attempt to install “Chirp”, be sure your virus protection is up to date. Contact Bob at [rosterhous@iquest.net](mailto:rosterhous@iquest.net) for more details.

## **FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER**

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

## **SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS**

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

### **Signals from the Past:**

#### **From the November, 1949 *Ama-Chewer*:**

The club and the board of directors has voted that the old memograph of the club be disposed of by offering it for sale to the highest bidder answering this appeal for bids in Amachewer or failing to receive bids that it be junked. The machine will be brought to club Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> for your inspection and bids will be received thereafter until the end of the month by the club Secretary and if no bids are submitted, sealed, the machine will be junked. Submit your bid to the secretary before the end of the month.

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### **Upcoming Area Radio Events:**

- December 5: Hendricks County Volunteer recognition event.  
7:00 pm at the Hendricks County Government Center.

- February 16, 2013: Brownsburg Hamfest Go to <http://www.hcars.org/> for more information.

## 2012 Officers:

- President: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL [gskoll@msn.com](mailto:gskoll@msn.com)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL [dmiller@ivytech.edu](mailto:dmiller@ivytech.edu)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL [WS9H@comcast.net](mailto:WS9H@comcast.net)
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL [k9xv@arrl.net](mailto:k9xv@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Ron Cooper, WB9DKL - ..EMAIL [wb9dkl@aol.com](mailto:wb9dkl@aol.com)
- Dir. at large: Bob Begeman, W9KVK - ..EMAIL [w9kvk@juno.com](mailto:w9kvk@juno.com)
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL [don9doo@lightbound.com](mailto:don9doo@lightbound.com)

## 2013 Officers:

- President: OPEN
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL [dmiller@ivytech.edu](mailto:dmiller@ivytech.edu)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL [WS9H@comcast.net](mailto:WS9H@comcast.net)
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL [k9xv@arrl.net](mailto:k9xv@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL [gskoll@msn.com](mailto:gskoll@msn.com)
- Dir. at large: Bob Osterhous - ..EMAIL [rosterhous@iquest.net](mailto:rosterhous@iquest.net)
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL [don9doo@lightbound.com](mailto:don9doo@lightbound.com)

# Indianapolis Radio Club Christmas Party

December 14, 2012 at 6:00 pm

MCL Castleton

5520 Castleton Corner Lane

Indianapolis, IN 46250



Happy Holidays!

You are cordially invited to attend the Indianapolis Radio Club annual Christmas Party. The program speaker will be from the Indianapolis Children's Museum and will share with us his experience of visiting South Dakota for a dinosaur dig. This program should be of interest to kids and adults alike.

The club will provide each paid member with \$10 towards your meal so please join us for an evening of good food and great company! We look forward to seeing you there.

Directions: I-465 Exit at Allisonville Rd and turn North. Go to 86th St and turn right. Go to the first light and turn right then just past Pier One turn right again into the parking lot. You will be at the back of the restaurant so follow around to the front.

Indianapolis Radio Club Officers